

Hameed Malik, Ph.D., PE, Director

January 28, 2023

Augusta, Georgia Commission

Through: City Administrator

Subject:

Greene Street Improvements Project-

Street Lighting Replacement & Reconstruction

Supplement Funds need

Dear Augusta Commission and City Administrator:

In March 2021 passage of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and establishment of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) provided great opportunity to advance and accelerate projects enhancing / improving public safety and public recreation. Street Lighting at Greene Street segment between 5th Street & East Boundary is non-functional due to aging faulty underground electrical wiring. This creating public safety concerns. Augusta Engineering, under Transportation Investment Act (TIA) funding, developed street lighting replacement construction plans as part of this segment roadway & drainage improvements construction. However, construction funds allocated to complete intended improvements are not sufficient due to current construction market and several uncontrolled variables such as significant increase in material production cost, severe shortage of skilled workforce and significant increase in construction work at present. Hence, Augusta Engineering requesting partial use of ARPA funds allocated for Street Lighting improvements.

Augusta Commission in FY2022 Budget approved allocating \$6,000,000.00 ARPA funds to street lighting improvements. Approval distributed funds utilization/obligation over FY2021 through FY2024 budgeted period. Allocated funds utilization, through street lighting budgets, review reveals that out of allocated \$6,000,000 only \$2,643,440 has been utilized/obligated. Accordingly, \$3,356,560.00 should be not obligated yet. Greene Street Segment between 5th Street & East Boundary Street Lighting replacement/construction cost is \$838,493.00. To complete this segment street lighting, Augusta Engineering needs supplement funds and requesting utilizing \$800,000.00 from street lighting ARAP allocated available balance of \$3,356,560.00. With this obligation (if approved), remaining unobligated balance will be \$2,556,560.00.

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this correspondence.

Sincerely!

Hameed Malik, Ph.D., P.E.

Director of Engineering & Environmental Services